

Application No.: 10/583,319

Docket No.: JCLA21090

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claim 5 is objected because of informalities as indicted by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 3, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ingram in view of Ertl et al.

Claims 4-8 are allowed.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 9, and amended claims 2, 3, and 5.

The amendments to claims 2 and 3 are changes only about the dependency thereof without entering any new matter and would not initiate any new search. The amendment to claim 5 is made in accordance the instruction of the Examiner.

Entering of the amendments and allowance to the pending claims are respectfully solicited.

Discussion of the Office Action Objection

Claim 5 is objected to because of informalities as indicted by the Examiner.

Responsive thereto, Applicant has amended claim 5 as instructed by the Examiner, and therefore solicits withdrawing of the objection to claim 5.

Discussion of the Office Action Rejections

Claims 1, 3, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ingram in view of Ertl et al.

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Responsive thereto, Applicant has cancelled claims 1 and 9, and amended claims 2 and 3.

Upon the cancellation of claims 1 and 9, the rejections made thereto are moot.

Further, claims 2 and 3 are amended to depend on allowable independent claim 4, and thus contain all allowable subject matter presented in claim 4. As such, claims 2 and 3 are now submitted to be allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-8 are allowed, for which courtesy, the Examiner is thanked.

Claims 4-8 remain unchanged from their allowable forms, and thus the allowability should be maintained.

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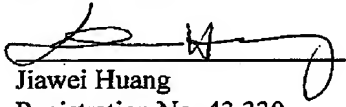
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 2-8 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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